D-428 The Orem Building 1892 Cambridge

Built between August and October 1892, the Orem Building, also known as the Democrat and News building, was the first structure to be completed on High Street after the devastating fire that ravaged the city on July 31. The newspaper announced proudly on October 13,

The DEMOCRAT AND NEWS building, built by J. Benjamin Brown, contractor, is the first to be completed in the district ravaged by the late fire. It is a two-story building, especially designed for the printing business, and pronounced by good judges to be a very handsome building inside and out, and most solidly and substantially built. Its completion in less than two months reflects great credit on the contractor for his push and energy and we take pleasure in recommending him to all desiring to erect buildings of any kind. We are greatly pleased with it and will occupy it this Saturday. Let our subscribers and others who are indebted to us remember that we need every dollar due us to meet our obligations, and that we will be glad to see them at once.

As the news item stated, J. Benjamin Brown erected this commercial block in record time for the newspaper to move in within two-and-a-half months since the fire. As he advertised in the local newspaper, "Ben" Brown was a building contractor who provided plans and specifications freely to his clients. His design for the Democrat and News building followed a standard format and finish for mid-sized commercial blocks erected during the 1890s. Obligated to rebuild in masonry materials by city ordinance, the two-story, four-bay structure combines a pressed brick front elevation laid in narrow butter joints with more standard common bond coursing on the sides and rear walls away from public view. Stone arches were used in front, while more typical segmental brick arches were employed on the side facing the adjacent alley. The most decorative original

elements include the bracketed door frame that enhances the side entrance leading to the second story and the wood and metal cornice that stretches across the top of the building.

The chain-of-title research for this lot traces the property back to the 1787-88 lease and later sale of the prison lands of Dorchester County, which came down subsequently through the Hammond family of Talbot County. In 1879, the lease for the lot and adjoining parcels was acquired by Sarah J. Jordan, on which stood at the time a frame store house occupied by William H. Jordan, and later by George A. Smith. After the 1892 fire, the leasehold for the property remained in the hands of Sarah J. Jordan, while the property was occupied as the *Democrat and News* office. Orem family ownership and occupancy of this storefront lasted for more than fifty years between 1911 and 1966.

Inventory No. D-428

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

	The Orem Building, Democrat and News Office				
other					
2. Location					
street and number	313 High	Street		_	not for publication
city, town	Cambridg	e			vicinity
county	Dorcheste	er			
3. Owner of P	roperty	(give names and mailing	g addresses of all owners)		
name	Robert s.	and Cami L. Collison			
street and number	P. O. Box	1176		telephone 4	410-228-1911
city, town	Cambridg	e	state Md	zip code 2	21613-5176
4. Location o		DS2 17 E32 C-500 G1	6.0	100 6-11- 1	02
courthouse, registry of	of deeds, etc.	Dorchester Count Clerk	of Court liber	189 folio 1	93
city, town	Cambridg	e	tax map 301 tax pare	cel 26 tax ID n	number 145594
	cation o	f Additional Data			
5. Primary Lo Contribu Contribu Determir Determir Recorde	nting Resource sting Resource ned Eligible for ned Ineligible for d by HABS/HA	in National Register District in Local Historic District the National Register/Maryla or the National Register/Mary	and Register vland Register		
5. Primary Lo Contribut Contribut Determine Recorde Historic Other:	nting Resource nting Resource ned Eligible for ned Ineligible for ned by HABS/HA Structure Repo	in National Register District in Local Historic District the National Register/Maryla or the National Register/Mary ER	and Register vland Register		
Contribution Contribution Contribution Determine Determine Recorde Historic Other: 6. Classification	nting Resource nting Resource ned Eligible for ned Ineligible for ned by HABS/HA Structure Repo	in National Register District in Local Historic District the National Register/Maryla or the National Register/Mary ER	and Register vland Register	Resource C	ount

7. Description

Inventory No. D-428

Condition

_	_excellent	deteriorated
x	_ good	ruins
	fair	altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Orem Building is located at 313 High Street in the central business district of Cambridge, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-story, four-bay brick commercial block faces southeast with a long sloping shed roof covering the structure. This rectangular brick structure is joined in ownership at present with the adjacent commercial block at 311 High Street.

Built between August and October 1892, this two-story, four-bay by seven-bay storefront has a street elevation consisting of pressed stretcher bond brick laid in a narrow butter joint, whereas the exposed southwest side is laid in a regular seven-course common bond of regular late nineteenth-century wall brick. Seven bays across, the side elevation descends gradually in height from front to back, beginning at a full two-story height and decreasing in small amounts to the rear to a story-and-a-half height. The walls rise to a parapet that disguises the long slope of the shed roof that covers the building.

The southeast (main) elevation is a four-bay façade of pressed brick laid in a narrow butter joint laid atop a stone base. The first story fenestration includes a side entrance in the northeast bay that provides access to the second floor. Largely original, the doorway includes a boldly ornamented cornice with acanthus leaf forms in the face of each cornice bracket. To each side of the entrance are wide paneled pilaster forms enhanced with fluted and solid panels. The partially glazed door is topped by a multi-pane transom with colored glass perimeter panes. The adjacent three bays to the southwest include a centrally positioned entrance fitted with a replacement door and large window openings to each side. The door and windows are fitted with stone lintels and sills. Replacement sash have been installed in the window openings. The second story is marked by four window openings fitted with stone lintels and sills and replacement sash. The pressed brick front is topped by a metal and wood cornice featuring the name of the structure, "THE OREM BUILDING," in large block letters across the frieze. The cornice is enriched with a row of modillion blocks, and a decorative molded metal bracket ornament terminates the cornice at each end. The face of each bracket is finished with a ribbed molding, and a tear-drop shaped finial rises atop each bracket.

The northeast side of the commercial block is entirely covered by the adjacent storefront at 311 High Street. The southwest side elevation, laid in seven-course common bond, is seven bays across with a variety of segmental arched window openings filled with one-over-one sash. The segmental soldier course arches have a projecting header row that tops each arch. Several window openings have been bricked up. The wall elevation descends gradually in height from a full two-story elevation in front to a low two-story elevation in back.

The rear wall is a six-course common bond elevation with modern one-over-one sash windows lighting each floor. There are two bricked up window openings.

8. Signific	ance			Inventory No. D-428
Period	Areas of Significance	Check and ju	ustify below	
1600-1699 1700-1799 x1800-1899 1900-1999 2000-	agriculture archeology x architecture art commerce communications community planning conservation	economics education engineering entertainment/ recreation ethnic heritage exploration/ settlement	health/medicine industry invention landscape archit law literature maritime history military	performing arts philosophy politics/government religion science social history transportation other:
Specific dates			Architect/Builder	Contractor J. Benjamin Brown
Construction d	ates 1892			
Evaluation for:	_National Register	N	faryland Register	xnot evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Built between August and October 1892, the Orem Building, also known as the Democrat and News building, was the first structure to be completed on High Street after the devastating fire the ravaged the city on July 31. The newspaper announced proudly on October 13,

The DEMOCRAT AND NEWS building, built by J. Benjamin Brown, contractor, is the first to be completed in the district ravaged by the late fire. It is a two-story building, especially designed for the printing business, and pronounced by good judges to be a very handsome building inside and out, and most solidly and substantially built. Its completion in less than two months reflects great credit on the contractor for his push and energy and we take pleasure in recommending him to all desiring to erect buildings of any kind. We are greatly pleased with it and will occupy in this Saturday. Let our subscribers and others who are indebted to us remember that we need every dollar due us to meet our obligations, and that we will be glad to see them at once.

As the newspaper stated, J. Benjamin Brown erected this commercial block in record time for the newspaper to move in within two-and-a-half months since the fire. As he advertised in the local newspaper, Ben Brown was a building contractor who provided plans and specifications freely to his clients. His design for the Democrat and News building followed a fairly standard format for mid sized commercial blocks erected after the fire. Obligated to rebuild in masonry materials, the two-story four-bay structure combines a pressed brick front elevation laid in narrow butter joints with more standard common bond coursing on the sides and rear elevation away from public view. Stone arches were used in front, while more typical segmental brick arches were used on each side. The most decorative original elements include the bracketed door frame that enhances the side entrance and the metal and wood cornice that stretches across the top of the front elevation.

Democrat and News, October 13, 1892.

² Democrat and News, October 22, 1892.

Inventory No. D-428

Name The Orem Building
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

The chain-of-title research for this lot traces the property back to the 1787-88 lease and later sale of the prison lands of Dorchester County, which came down subsequently through the Hammond family of Talbot County. In 1879 the lease to the lot and adjoining parcels was acquired by Sarah J. Jordan, on which stood a frame store house occupied by William H. Jordan, ³ and later occupied by a George A. Smith. After the 1892 fire, the property remained in the hands of Sarah J. Jordan but occupied as the *Democrat and News* office.

³ Dorchester County Land Record, FJH 13/474, September 19, 1879.

Inventory No. D-428

Name

The Orem Building

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

CHAIN-OF-TITLE 311-313 High Street

MLB 646/14

Robert S. Collison

to

4.29.2005

Robert S. Collison and Cami L. Collison

MLB 571/656

Barbara L. Carey

to

4.07.2004

Robert S. Collison

MLB 484/972

Jennifer Daggs

to

6.03.2002

Barbara L. Carey

189/193

Philllis E. Murphy

to

3.11.1975

William E. Murphy, Jr.

(127 and 129 High Steeet now known as 313 High Street)

Inventory No. D-428

Name The Orem Building Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 3

174/397

C. Van Eyk Grobler Judith M. Grobler

to

10.28.1968

William E. Murphy, Jr.

147/372

W. Earle Orem and Bessie O. Orem

to

6.2.1966

C. Van Eyk Grobler

117/285

Earle W. Orem, widower

to

12.21.1959

W. Earler Orem and Bessie O. Orem

\$3770.00

RSM 77/251

V. Calvin Trice, Trustee (Birdsel D. Orem and Earle M.

Orem, her husband

to

1.28.1952

Earle M. Orem

Inventory No. D-428

Name

The Orem Building

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

RSM 75/483

V. Calvin Trice, Trustee

to

6.30.1951

Birdsel D. Orem and husband

JFD 26/11

Emerson C. Harrington and Emerson C. Harrington, Jr.

to

7.5.1930

Earle W. Orem

Foreclosure on mortgage between the Eastern Shore Newspaper Corporation unto Earle W. Orem

\$12,000

the said lot is improved by a two-story brick building, and being the same building now occupied by the "Democrat & News" and the Chamber of Commerce

JFD 20/74

Earle W. Orem

to

3.23.1927

Eastern Shore Newspaper Corporation

"printing business now conducted by Earle W. Orem at 129 High Street"

Inventory No. D-428

Name The Orem Building
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 5

WLR 3/545

Phillips L. Goldsborough, et al.

to

6.8.1911

Earle W. Orem and Emmett J. Orem

CL 20/127

Sarah J. Jordan

to

3.7.1896

Phillips L. Goldsborough and George W. Woolford

Lease CL 9/712

Willaim H. Barton, Jr.

to

6.11.1887

Sarah J. Jordan

Lot 1 of the Prison Lands

All that lot, part of a lot or lots situated on High street in the Town of Cambridge, Md whereon the frame store house herein lately occupied by William H. Jordan, deceased, and now in the occupancy of George A. Smith, stands together with lot in the rear and adjacent thereto having about thirty feet front and running back to the line of the lot whereon the said William H. Barton, Jr. now resides and whereon the late Thomas A. Spence formerly resided, and with a width on the rear line of about 46 feet, it being all of Lot No. 1, and Lots No. 1 & 2 contiguous thereto which were conveyed by James Wallace and wife to William H. Jordan excepting there from the parts of the said lots which now belong to Frances S. Jordan

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-428

Democrat and News, October 13, 1892.

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property Acreage of historical setting Quadrangle name

6,842 square feet 6,842 square feet Cambridge, Md, 1988

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

11. Form Prepared by

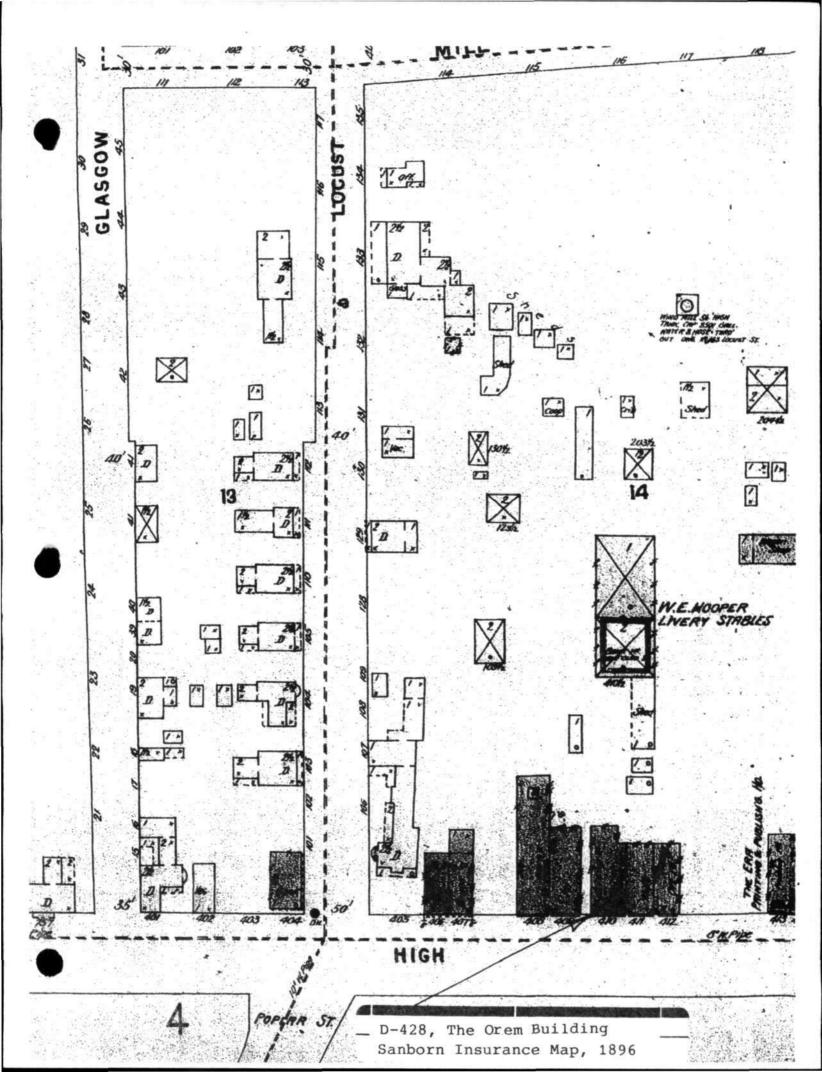
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	9/15/2007
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust DHCD/DHCP 100 Community Place Crownsville, MD 21032-2023 410-514-7600





_D-428, The Orem Building Cambridge, Maryland Quad. 1988



D-428
TITE OREM BUILDING
CAMPRIDGE, DORINESTEN G., MP.
SOUTHEWET ELEVATION
A/07, PARLU TOWART, PITOTOGRAPITON
NEW JUD. 14 STURICA TRUST



D-428

THE ORE OR BUILDING

PANIBRIDGE, DORCHESSEL CO, MA.

NIKHWEST ELEVATION

9/07, PANIC THUANT, PITOTICA MONTER

WEG, /MP. 1 +15 TVKI. OR TRUST

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1004284611

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

NAME					
HISTORIC					
AND/OR COMMON	-				
LOCATION	V				
STREET & NUMBER					
	h Street				
CITY, YOWN	III BUIEEC		CON	GRESSIONAL DISTR	ICT
Cambrid	enf	VICINITY OF		1	
STATE	age	COUNTY			
Marylar	nd		Dorc	hester	
CLASSIFIC	CATION				
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS		PRES	ENTUSE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
™_BUILDING(S)	≥ PRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED		XCOMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	вотн	_WORK IN PROGRESS		EDUCATIONAL	PRIVATE RESID
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE		ENTERTAINMENT	_ RELIGIOUS
OBJECT	IN PROCESS	X_YES: RESTRICTED		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED		_INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTAT
OWNER O	F PROPERTY	NO		MILITARY	_OTHER
NAME Willia	F PROPERTY	NO		_MILITARY	OTHER
NAME Willia	am E. Murphy	_NO			OTHER
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo	*	_NO		hone #:	
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo	am E. Murphy		Telepl	hone #:	ip code
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri	am E. Murphy ow Street idge —	VICINITY OF	Telepl	hone #:	
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri	am E. Murphy	VICINITY OF	Telepl	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2	ip code
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri	am E. Murphy ow Street idge —	VICINITY OF	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189	ip code
STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	em E. Murphy ow Street idge — N OF LEGAL DESCR	. VICINITY OF	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2	ip code
STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE.	am E. Murphy ow Street idge —	. VICINITY OF	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189	ip code
STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS	em E. Murphy ow Street idge — N OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: state, z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code
STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS	am E. Murphy ow Street idge N OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613
STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER	ow Street idge — N OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: state, z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	am E. Murphy DW Street Idge N OF LEGAL DESCH GETC Dorchester Cou 206 High Stree Cambridge	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN	am E. Murphy ow Street idge N OF LEGAL DESCR	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN	am E. Murphy DW Street Idge N OF LEGAL DESCH GETC Dorchester Cou 206 High Stree Cambridge	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESENTILE	am E. Murphy DW Street Idge N OF LEGAL DESCH GETC Dorchester Cou 206 High Stree Cambridge	VICINITY OF RIPTION nty Courthouse	Teleph Ma: Liber	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN	am E. Murphy DW Street Idge N OF LEGAL DESCH GETC Dorchester Cou 206 High Stree Cambridge	VICINITY OF RIPTION The Courthouse to the Court	Ma: Liber Folio	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193 STATE Maryland	ip code 21613 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESEN TITLE DATE	am E. Murphy DW Street Idge N OF LEGAL DESCH GETC Dorchester Cou 206 High Stree Cambridge	VICINITY OF RIPTION The Courthouse to the Court	Ma: Liber Folio	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193	ip code 21613 21613
NAME Willia STREET & NUMBER Glasgo CITY. TOWN Cambri LOCATION COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS STREET & NUMBER CITY. TOWN REPRESENTILE	am E. Murphy DW Street Idge N OF LEGAL DESCH GETC Dorchester Cou 206 High Stree Cambridge	VICINITY OF RIPTION The Courthouse to the Court	Ma: Liber Folio	hone #: STATE, Z ryland 2 #:189 #:193 STATE Maryland	ip code 21613 21613

CONDITION

__EXCELLENT __DETERIORATED

_GOOD

__RUINS

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

__UNALTERED

MOVED D

DATE

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This is a two story brick building, that is relatively unaltered. The cornice is ornamented by corner modillions and fluted brackets at the corners. It is inscribed with the name "The Orem Building". There are four bays on the front. The original door is ornamented by a bold, heavy cornice and large brackets above. The door jambs are ornamneted by a series of raised rectangles and circles.

SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	
·				
		INVENTION		
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
≥1800-1899	COMMERCE	_EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION
_1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
_1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1400-1499	_ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	_LAW	SCIENCE
REHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	X _COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
PERIOD	A	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is a good example of a small nineteenth century commercial building that remains relatively unaltered. It contributes significantly to the overall texture and character of this block of High Street which still retains its late nineteenth century flavor. With the loss, or inappropriate renovation of buildings such as this, the unity and distinctiveness of the streetscape begins to erode.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET I	IF NECESSARY
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	
ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY	
Salar Salar Salar Assault - Basal Salar Assault - Salar Sala	
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION	
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR P	PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES
STATE	22022
STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY
II FORM PREPARED BY	
NAME / TITLE	
Catherine L. Moore	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
	12/3/75
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Route 3. Box 32	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

STATE Maryland

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

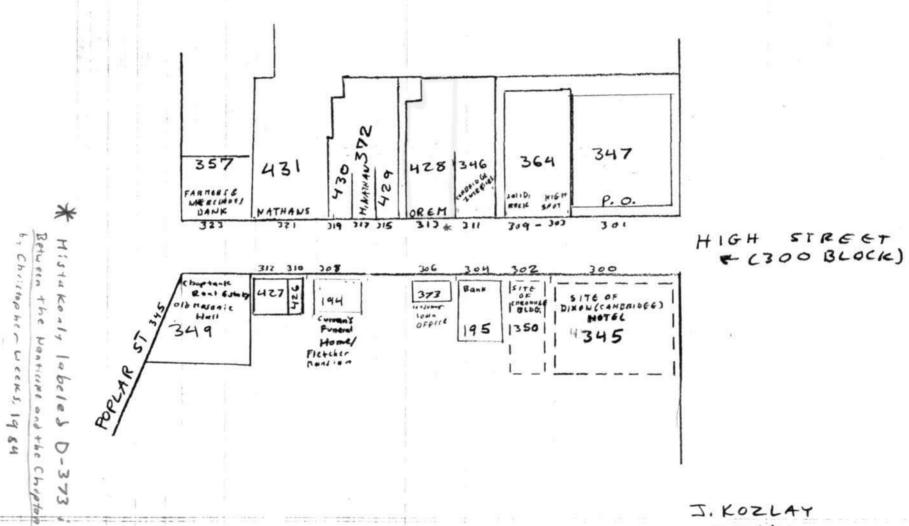
CITY OR TOWN

Cambridge

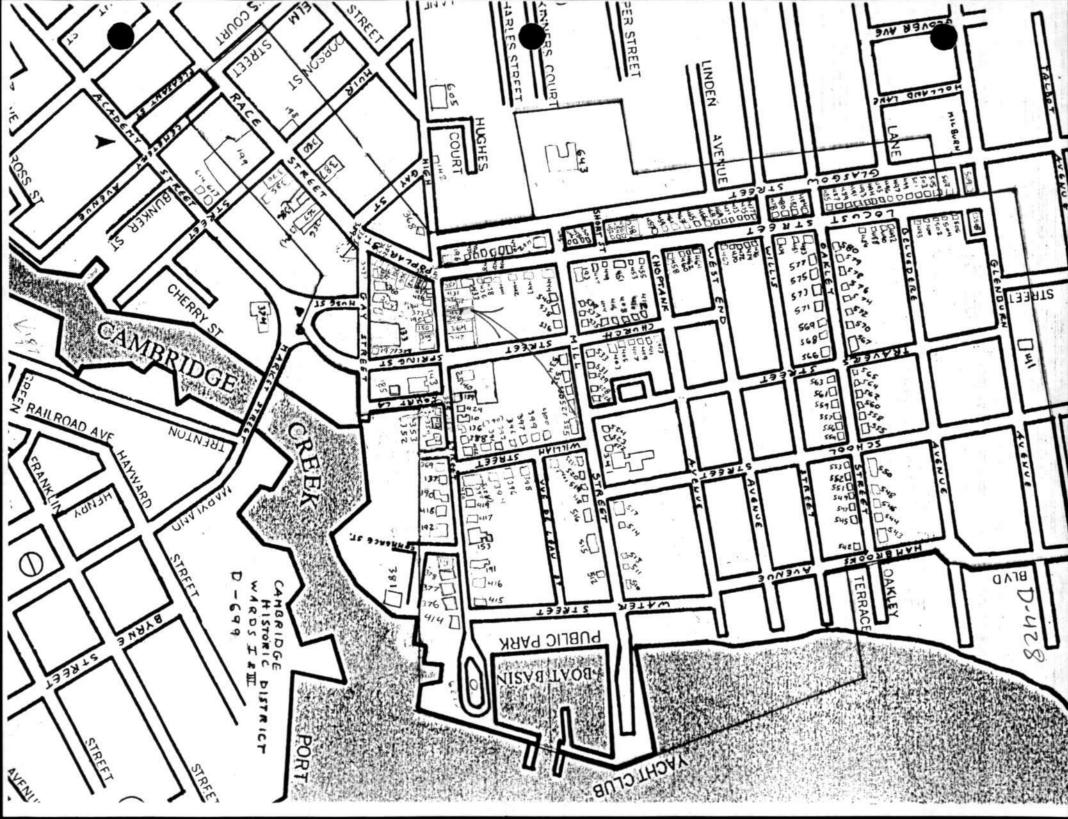
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

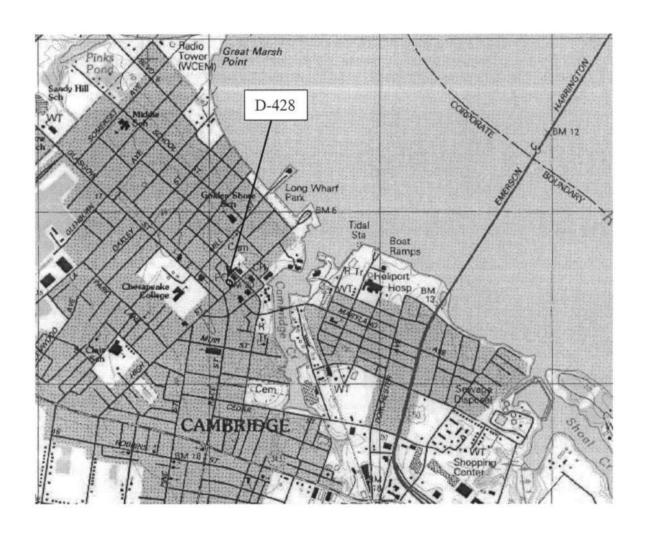
(301) 267-1438



12/21/93



D-428
Orem Building (Standard Building)
313 High St.
Cambridge
Cambridge Quad.
Dorchester Co.





313 HIGH ST, CAMBRIDGE, MD. - EAST FACADE C.L. MOORE, 1976 D-H28



D- 8 373 428